Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A nonvolatile memory system comprising:

a plurality N of nonvolatile storages, each storage including within which at least one cluster of data is recorded, with where each cluster is constructed by a plurality K of sectors;

address designating means for designating an address of the cluster in which data is recorded; and

recording means for recording data into a storage location at the address designated by said address designated means[[;]],

wherein[[,]] said plurality N of nonvolatile storages are is divided into a plurality of segments[[;]], each said segment is distributed and arranged into said plurality of storages[[;]], and each said each segment is composed of a plurality of clusters, and a where each cluster of first N clusters of a given said each segment each having is configured to consecutively store first to Kth entire sectors successively stored in first to Kth memory locations, respectively, of a corresponding one storage of said plurality N of nonvolatile storages, whereby such that said first N clusters of each segment are continuously arranged across said N storages.

8. (Previously Presented) The nonvolatile memory system according to claim 7, wherein an access is performed with reference to a logical cluster address/physical cluster address conversion table that is formed for each segment.

2

- 9. (Previously Presented) The nonvolatile memory system according to claim 7, wherein second sector data is transferred to a second storage and first sector data is written into a first storage immediately after the first sector data is transferred to the first storage.
- 10. (Currently Amended) The nonvolatile memory system according to claim 7, wherein a segment address, a storage address, and a sector address are created for recording data into <u>said</u> plurality N of <u>said</u> nonvolatile storages.
 - 11. (Currently Amended) A data processing system comprising:

a plurality N of nonvolatile storages, each storage including within which at least one cluster of data is recorded, with where each cluster is constructed by a plurality K of sectors; and a data processing apparatus having including:

address designating means for designating an address of the cluster in which data is recorded; and

recording means for recording data into a storage location at the address designated by said address designated means[[;]],

wherein[[,]] said plurality N of nonvolatile storages are is divided into a plurality of segments[[;]], each said segment is distributed and arranged into said plurality of storages[[;]], and each said each segment is composed of a plurality of clusters, and a where each cluster of first N clusters of a given said each segment each having is configured to consecutively store first to Kth entire sectors successively stored in first to Kth memory locations, respectively, of a

corresponding one storage of said plurality N nonvolatile storages, whereby such that said first N clusters of each segment are continuously arranged across said N storages.

- 12. (Previously Presented) The data processing system according to claim 11, wherein an access is performed with reference to a logical cluster address/physical cluster address conversion table that is formed for each segment.
- 13. (Previously Presented) The data processing system according to claim 11, wherein second sector data is transferred to a second storage and first sector data is written into a first storage immediately after the first sector data is transferred to the first storage.
- 14. (Currently Amended) The data processing system according to claim 11, wherein a segment address, a storage address, and a sector address are created for recording data into said plurality N of said—nonvolatile storages.
 - 15. (Currently Amended) A nonvolatile memory device comprising:

a plurality N of nonvolatile storages, each storage including-within which at least one cluster of data is recorded, with where each cluster is constructed by a plurality K of sectors[[;]],

wherein[[,]] said plurality N of nonvolatile storages are is divided into a plurality of segments[[;]], each said segment is distributed and arranged into said plurality of storages[[;]], and each said each segment is composed of a plurality of clusters, and a where each cluster of first N clusters of a given said each segment each having is configured to consecutively store first to Kth entire sectors successively stored in first to Kth memory locations, respectively, of a

corresponding one <u>storage</u> of said <u>plurality</u> N <u>of nonvolatile</u> storages, whereby <u>such that</u> said <u>first</u>

N clusters of each segment are continuously arranged across said N storages.

16. (Previously Presented) The memory device according to claim 15, wherein an access

is performed with reference to a logical cluster address/physical cluster address conversion table

that is formed for each segment.

17. (Previously Presented) The memory device according to claim 15, wherein second

sector data is transferred to a second storage and first sector data is written into a first storage

immediately after the first sector data is transferred to the first storage.

18. (Currently Amended) The memory device according to claim 15, wherein a segment

address, a storage address, and a sector address are created for recording data into said plurality

N of said-nonvolatile storages.

19. (Currently Amended) A method of recording data in a nonvolatile memory having a

plurality N of nonvolatile storages, comprising the steps of:

defining at least one cluster of data to be recorded on each storage of said plurality N of

nonvolatile storages, with where each cluster is constructed by a plurality K of sectors;

providing an address of the cluster in which data is to be recorded; and

recording data into a storage location at the address designated by the designated

address[[;]],

5 00251312

wherein[[,]] said plurality N of nonvolatile storages are is divided into a plurality of segments[[;]], each said segment is distributed and arranged into said plurality of storages[[;]], and each said each segment is composed of a plurality of clusters, and a where each cluster of first N clusters of a given said each segment each having is configured to consecutively store first to Kth entire sectors successively stored in first to Kth memory locations, respectively, of a corresponding one storage of said plurality N of nonvolatile storages, whereby such that said first N clusters of each segment are continuously arranged across said N storages.

- 20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein an access is performed with reference to a logical cluster address/physical cluster address conversion table that is formed for each segment.
- 21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein second sector data is transferred to a second storage and first sector data is written into a first storage immediately after the first sector data is transferred to the first storage.
- 22. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 19, wherein a segment address, a storage address, and a sector address are created for recording data into <u>said plurality</u> N of <u>said</u>—nonvolatile storages.
- 23. (Previously Presented) The memory system according to claim 7, wherein N is at least three.

PATENT Appl. No. 09/806,136 Attorney Docket No. 450106-02621

- 24. (Previously Presented) The data processing system according to claim 11, wherein N is at least three.
- 25. (Previously Presented) The memory device according to claim 15, wherein N is at least three.
 - 26. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein N is at least three.

PATENT Appl. No. 09/806,136 Attorney Docket No. 450106-02621

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By:

Samuel Stee, Reg. No. 42,791 for

William S. Frommer Reg. No. 25,506 (212) 588-0800